DEMOCRATIC
GERMAN REPORT

VOL. III NO. 23 NOVEMBER 12th 1954 Price: 15 Pf., 5 c., 3 d

Bigger Than Hitler's

ANTI-WAR POSTER BAR

The West German authorities have banned and confiscated a poster issued by the Communist Party in Bavaria because it allegedly "cails for disobedience to the orders of the authorities".

The poster consists simply of a picture of a German soldier drilling on the barrack square, and the text "Never Again Barras". Barras is an untranslatable German slang term implying Prussian drill sergeants and senseless soul-destroying military discipline.

"Scourge" for E. Germany

Lord Russell's well known book on nazi war crimes, "The Scourge of the Swastika" will be published shortly in East Germany by the publishing house "Volk und Welt", it was announced in Berlin.

NEW WEST GERMAN WEHRMACHT FIVE TIMES STRONGER

Under the new Paris Agreement, West Germany will have a Wehrmacht five times as strong as that with which Hitler came to power.

This was the warning given to the German people and the people of Europe by the Committee for German Unity, meeting in Berlin on November 5th.

"The Weimar Republic had 100,000 soldiers. They were enough for Chancellor von Papen to strangle democratic liberties and bring Hitler to power" stated the appeal issued by the Committee.

"In the West German Federal Republic, which is far smaller than the Weimar Republic, Hitler's generals are now going to be given 500,000 soldiers. What will be left of democracy there? And even this is not enough for these generals, who are now calling for total mobilisation.

"Dr. Adenauer claims that the Paris agreements will serve European security. But in fact the rearmament of the old cadres of the Hitlerite army will enormously sharpen the international tension at its most critical point in central Europe at a moment when in the rest of the world there is a noticeable relaxation of tension.

"It is the duty of all Germans at this hour to show the world an example of national unity. All of us, without distinction of person or party, must urge the reunification of Germany through negotiations between the great powers and between the two parts of Germany; we must avoid any action which could disrupt such negotiations."

The appeal issued by the Committee for German Unity in Berlin has been paralleled in West Germany by action for German unity and against a new Wehrmacht by many sections of the population.

The West German Socialist Student Federation, meeting in Marburg at the beginning of November unanimously declared their opposition to West German rearmament, and called for direct negotiations with the Soviet Union and the East German Government. "The feeling which pervaded the conference was one of 'No

(continued on next page)

Adenauer: Shh! Keep quiet for just a few days more. Then you can come up and show how hard you have been training. (From „Politiken", Copenhagen)

(continued from front page)

rearmament, but reunification at any price'" stated the right-wing Stuttgart newspaper "Deutsche Zeitung und Wirtschaftszeitung".

In Cologne, the Government "Blank Office", the camouflaged war ministry, staged an "open discussion" on the formation of a new West German Wehrmacht. The official speakers were howled down by the 1500 young men and women who attended the discussion, and 17 from 20 young speakers from the audience were cheered to the echo when they rejected remilitarisation.

"We demand the reunification of Germany; no-one can demand that we go out and shoot down our friends and relations from East Germany" stated one of the young speakers.

WEST BERLIN POLLS SOON

Candidates Contrasted

West Berliners will go to the polls on December 5th to elect the Senate, the West Berlin administration. Candidates are being put up for election by the Christian Democratic Union (Adenauer's party), the Free Democrats, the Social Democrats, the extreme right-wing German Party, and the Socialist Unity Party.

The Socialist Unity Party has met great difficulties in its election campaign so far owing to the fact that all Socialist Unity Party newspapers are banned in West Berlin, and that the party has great difficulty in obtaining halls for election meetings. In addition dozens of party canvassers have been arrested, held for hours at police stations for "investigation" and released late at night when no more work can be done.

Leading candidate for the Socialist Unity Party is Bruno Baum, who spent ten years in a nazi concentration camp. Another candidate, Otto Pallapies, who was sentenced to twelve years imprisonment by a nazi court on charges of high treason, had to stand down from his candidature because the West Berlin judicial authorities regard this sentence as still valid, so that his "criminal record" makes him ineligible for election.

No such obstacles are placed in the way of right-wing candidates, however. The leader of the West German Free Democrats, Carl-Hubert Schwennicke was a Gestapo agent during the war (full details in GERMAN REPORT dated June 20th 1952).

Leading Christian Democratic candidate Dr. Friedrich Ernst served under Hitler as Reich Commissar for Credits from 1935 to 1939, and from then to the end of the war as Reich Commissioner for the Administration of Enemy Property. In this position he was ultimately responsible for all property seized in occupied Europe by the nazis.

DEATH FOR SPIES

Two members of the West German spy ring "Gehlen Organisation" were sentenced to death by the Supreme Court of the German Democratic Republic on November 9th. The two men sentenced to death, Karl Bandelow and Ewald Misera, pleaded guilty to extensive military espionage in preparation for a new world war. Two other accused were sentenced to life imprisonment, two to fifteen years, and one to 12 years.

The accused Karl Bandelow, who had occupied a leading post in the State Secretariat for Roads and Road Transport, confessed that he had provided the Gehlen Spy Organisation with complete details of all road bridges in East Germany. He identified in court a list of instructions, microphotographed on film, found in his possession when he was arrested.

These instructions laid down the action to be taken by him and other agents in the event of war. Point 2 stated:

> "Reports on the affect of allied air attack on railway lines, bridges, large telephone exchanges etc., and observation of the repair work done."

Point 15 of these instructions for war use stated:

> "Reports on the losses to the German population as a result of allied air attacks, and observations on the attitude of the population to the German Democratic Republic authorities, the Soviet occupation authorities, and on the other hand towards the allies. Which questions interesting to the German population should be dealt with by German propaganda."

In his evidence Bandelow explained that meeting places, radio transmission, and everything else necessary had been prepared for use in the "impending war".

Bandelow confessed that he had been drawn into the spy ring through his secretary Kaethe Dorn (one of the accused) with whom he had intimate relations.

His espionage activity had also been directed against Poland, which he had visited repeatedly in the course of his official government business.

The accused Ewald Misera, leading employee in the East Berlin railway headquarters, provided agents of the Gehlen organisation with all information which they asked for on railway movements, weak points where sabotage could be used, etc. He was well paid for his activity, receiving over 15,000 West German marks (nearly 4000 dollars) for his work.

Accused Gottfried Schroer was a former Wehrmacht officer. He confessed in court that he had specialised in military espionage in the area of Altenburg. In return he was paid a regular monthly wage by the Gehlen organisation, which was collected by his wife on trips to West Berlin.

Chancellor Adenauer Congratulates War Criminal

War criminal Konstantin von Neurath, one-time nazi foreign minister, and later "protector" of occupied Czechoslovakia, was released on November 6th 1954 from the four-power Spandau prison in Berlin after serving eight years of his fifteen year sentence.

The release of Neurath, who is 81 and seriously ill, was proposed on humanitarian grounds two days earlier by the Soviet authorities.

Immediately after his release Neurath received a telegram of congratulations from West German Chancellor Adenauer stating "I am greatly pleased that you have been given your freedom after long and difficult years. I convey my heartiest congratulations to you, your wife and children."

Neurath was sentenced to 15 years imprisonment by the British, French, Soviet and US judges at Nuremberg on October 1st 1946, after he had been found guilty of: conspiracy to wage aggressive war; crimes against peace; war crimes; crimes against humanity.

BRITISH MINERS, FOUNDRY MEN VISIT EAST GERMANY

The first official British trade union delegations to visit the German Democratic Republic made a two week tour at the end of October this year. The delegations were composed of representatives of the Amalgamated Union of Foundry Workers, the National Union of Railwaymen, the South Wales Miners, and the Derbyshire miners.

Official statements issued at the end of the tour by the Foundry Workers and the Miners are reproduced on this page.

At the conclusion of the tour the British trade unionists had a four hour discussion with Herbert Warnke Chairman of the Free German Trade Union Federation, and other East German union leaders.

In the course of this discussion the British unionists spoke not only about what had impressed them favourably, but also about the things they did not find so impressive. Mr. Casasola, President of the Foundry Workers, criticised the dirt and disorder which he had encountered in several foundries visited, and suggested methods of bringing about an improvement. He also promised to send the East German metal workers' union samples of the safety boot for foundry workers now in use in Britain, which he felt sure was superior to the model being used in East Germany.

Mr. Bowman, representative of the National Union of Railwaymen, stated that he had been very impressed by the apprentice schools in the railway workshops, but he felt that the apprenticeship period of between two and three years was not sufficient to turn out really skilled engineers. He also criticised the very great difference between the lowest and the highest wages paid in the railway industry.

East German trade union chairman, Herbert Warnke replied very fully to all these and other criticisms. He stated that he was particularly grateful for any suggestions or criticisms which would help in improving the work of the foundries, wihch needed considerable improvement.

With regard to the wage structure in the German Democratic Republic, he explained that many anomalies still existed, since the transformation from a capitalist to a socialist wage system had to be undertaken step by step. In the railways particularly there was still much to be done, he conceded.

Summing up, Herbert Warnke said "We have a feeling that your visit has brought German und British workers nearer to each other. We have a big struggle in front of us — the struggle for the unification of Germany and against the building of a West German Wehrmacht. The workers of Britain can give us a lot of help in this struggle."

"We Heard Cry for Peace"

— Miners

We have now completed our friendly investigation into the conditions in the German Democratic Republic. As miners we were mainly concerned with mining, and our investigation into conditions of labour, health, welfare and recreation took place mainly in the mining districts.

We visited both brown and black coal mines, briquetting plant, and holiday homes for miners and their families. We were very interested in the arrangements made for medical treatment in the mining area, and visited two polyclinics and night sanatoria.

The attention given to the question of cultural development and recreation was covered by visits to cultural centres and sports grounds.

Finally, we saw children's kindergartens, cultural palaces and parks, educational institutions, and we visited a number of workers in their homes.

We are all agreed that a great amount has already been done to increase the living standards of the people, and that the care taken for the sick and injured is to be admired. The cultural and recreational organisation seems to have achieved big advances in providing good clean enjoyment and activity for the people.

We have come to the conclusion that these big advances have been made because the people as a whole support the efforts of the government, and that all parties within the National Front have agreed to take a Socialist road.

Everywhere we went, the cry for peace was heard, and we were asked to express this feeling to the people of Britain. Peace and progress is the policy in East Germany. We will report the truth to our members on our return to Britain.

Jack Jones, Tonypandy,
Frank Whatley, Ebbw Vale,
representing 100,000 South Wales miners.
Hubert Wynn, Chesterfield,
Cyril Sheppard, Mansfield,
representing 36,000 Derbyshire miners.

"Aim is Friendship & Peace"

— Foundry men

We, the undersigned, representing 80,000 members of the Amalgamated Union of Foundry Workers of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and being part of the first official trade union delegation to visit Eastern Germany.

We give as our considered opinion after having visited, during our 14 days stay, polling booths on election day, iron and steel foundries, building sites, kindergartens, churches, shops, clinics and palaces of culture.

In our conversations with the workers and general public we are convinced that the population and government have one aim in view: to raise living standards of the people and seek friendship with peoples of all nations in a desire for world peace.

(signed)

Alexander Calder
William MacCreadie
Roland W. Casasola (President)

Berlin, October 29th 1954.

WHO SITS IN EAST GERMAN PARLIAMENT?

Introducing the People's Representatives

Who are the 400 men and women elected on October 17th this year to sit in the new East German People's Chamber? A handbook giving short biographies of all the members has been published by the National Front, and to give readers a typical cross section of the new members of parliament we have gone through the book, selecting the first name on every fifth page. Here are the men and women selected by this arbitrary method:

Else Merker. Former agricultural worker. After the war she took over a small farm created by land reform, and in 1952 played a leading part in forming an agricultural production cooperative. Member of the Democratic Women's League.

Albert Kummer. Former agricultural worker, aged 46. Took over a small farm created by land reform after the war, and is today chairman of an agricultural production cooperative. Member of the Socialist Unity Party.

Erich Uhlich. Printer by trade, aged 39. Since 1951 Lord Mayor of Leipzig. Member of Socialist Unity Party.

Professor Erich Correns. Research chemist, aged 58. Director of the Fibre Research Institute and President of the National Front.

Ehrhardt Hohmuth. Peasant, aged 39. Has cultivated his own farm for the past twenty years. Active member of the Peasants' Mutual Aid, and district chairman of the Democratic Peasant's Party.

Max Schaedel. Skilled smith by trade, aged 40. At present brigade foreman in the "Wismut AG" ore mines, and holder of the title "Hero of Labour".

Alfred Zirnstein. Textile worker by trade, forthe past ten years farming as a peasant. Very active in the post-war period in the development of the Peasant's Mutual Aid. Leading member of the Democratic Peasants' Party, and holder of the title "Master Peasant".

Peter Florin. Son of veteran German Communist Wilhelm Florin. Brought up abroad because his father was driven from Germany by Hitler. Returned to Germany in 1945 and worked as journalist. Today leading Foreign Ministry official.

Siegfried Roth. Bricklayer by trade, aged 26. While working as bricklayer he matriculated and is now active as a trade school teacher. Member of the National Democratic Party.

Reinhold Hennig. Son of a teacher, aged 35. Conscripted into nazi Wehrmacht, captured on the eastern front, and became active member of anti-Hitler "Free Germany" movement in prison camp. Now editor of the Berlin newspaper "National Zeitung". Member of the National Democratic Party.

Richard Gebel. Son of a bricklayer, aged 32. Learned the craft of shoemaking, and is today owner of a small cobbler's business. Member of the National Democratic Party.

THE COUNT

An unofficial count of the 400 members of the East German People's Chamber show that they include 214 workers and 53 peasants. The other 133 members include students, doctors, journalists, craftsmen and housewives. There is not a single landowner or manufacturer.

In the West German Parliament of 449 members, there are 85 factory owners and big-businessmen, 51 landowners, and 85 leading personnel from banks and trusts. There are only 15 members describing themselves as workers, and these are nearly all permanent trade union officials.

Susanne Pfannenberg. Housewife, aged 41. Frau Pfannenberg, who had previously been a private secretary, joined the Christian Democratic Union in 1947, and has since been very active as women's organiser and as co-opted town councillor.

Hermann Matern. Socialist organiser since his early youth. Aged 61. Veteran member of the Communist Party of Germany, arrested by nazis in 1933, escaped abroad 1934. Member of the Politbureau of the Central Commitee of the Socialist Unity Party.

Gisela Fuchs. Clothing worker, aged 26. Heads a production brigade in a Magdeburg clothing factory, decorated as Activist. Nonparty.

Heinrich Rau. Metal worker, 55 years old. Active in Socialist movement since 1913. Communist member of Prussian parliament 1928—33. Imprisoned for two years by nazis, then commander in International Brigade in Spain. 1943—45 in nazi concentration camp.

Vilmos Korn. Journalist and writer, aged 55. Helped rebuild East German school system after the end of the war. Now works as free-lance writer. Leading member of the National Democratic Party.

Margarete Goetzelt. Office worker, aged 45. Active in Social Democratic youth movement before nazi period, and in anti-nazi resistance under Hitler. Helped to reconstruct the consumer cooperatives after the war, and is today deputy president of the German Cooperative Federation.

Fritz Selbmann. Miner, aged 55. Active in the Socialist movement since 1920. Spent the entire nazi period in prison and concentration camp. Minister for Heavy Industry. Member of the Central Committee of the Socialist Unity Party.

Erwin Rother. Building worker, aged 42. Helped to build the democratic People's Police force, and serves at present as a police officer.

Luise Ermisch. Clothing worker, aged 38. One of the first to develop new working methods in the clothing industry after the war, and decorated in 1950 as "Hero of Labour". Now manager of a nationally-owned clothing factory. Member of the Socialist Unity Party.

Ernst Setzepfand. Engineering worker, aged 58. Active in the Social Democratic Party before 1933. Since the war has three times been decorated as Activist, and is now manager of the fitting department in an engineering factory. Member of the Socialist Unity Party.

Anna Hannig. Confectionary worker, aged 44. Former housemaid, now skilled worker decorated as Activist. Chairman of the women's committee in the Mauxion Confectionary Factory, Saalfeld. Member of the Socialist Unity Party.

Wolfgang Roesser. Office worker, aged 40. Called up to Wehrmacht in 1937, and captured on eastern front. In Soviet prison camp was active in Free German movement. Member of the National Democratic Party.

Gerhart Ziller. Metal worker, aged 42. Active in Socialist movement since 1928, served long term of imprisonment under nazis. Secretary of the Central Committee of the Socialist Unity Party.

Professor Heinz Roehrer. Veterinary surgeon, aged 49. Head of the research institute for animal epidemics on the island of Riems, Holder of the National Prize. Member of the Main Committee of the Christian Democratic Union.

Josef Weiser. Welder, aged 24. Formerly an agricultural labourer, then trained as electro-welder in shipbuilding. Decorated as Activist. Member of the Free German Youth.

Professor Otto Ruehle. Teacher, aged 40. Joined the Free German movement in Soviet prisoner of war camp; played active part in rebuilding East German administration after the war. Member of the Main Committee of the National Democratic Party.

Karl-Heinz Vetter. Office worker, aged 26. Mayor of Duckow and district councillor. Member of the Christian Democratic Union.

HOW CITIES SPEND THEIR MONEY

A Comparison Between East & West Germany

	East			West		
	KARL MARX STADT (formerly Chemnitz, 290,000 inhabitants)			DUISBURG (430,000 inhabitans)		
Budget for 1953 (in marks)	103,389,000			132,513,000		
Annual expenditure	**Total**	**% of budget**	**Per inhabitant**	**Total**	**% of budget**	**Per inhabitant**
Administration	8,690,000	8.4	29.72	22,230,600	16.8	50.79
Education, Culture etc.	29,723,100	28.7	99.07	21,266,500	16,0	48.59
Expenditure per primary scholar 1953	109			73		
Expenditure per primary scholar 1954	122			?		
Scholarships for high school scholars, 1954	586,000			2,000		
Kindergartens, 1954	1,652,000			343,000		
Factory Kindergartens, 1954	307,300			Nil		
Theatre, 1953	4,058,500			1,374,800		
Public health	24,400,000	23.6	81.33	3,758,500	2.8	8.59

	East			West		
	DESSAU (approx. 106,000 inhabitants)			RECKLINGHAUSEN (approx. 120,000 inhabitants)		
Budget for 1953 (in marks)	25,708,500			23,605,799		
Annual expenditure	**Total**	**% of budget**	**Per inhabitant**	**Total**	**% of budget**	**Per inhabitant**
Administration	2,658,900	10.3	25.68	4,486,600	19.0	39.50
Education, Culture etc.	12,148,500	47.3	121.48	4,333,000	18.40	38.09
Expenditure per primary scholar 1953	64			42		
Holiday homes & camps 1953	113,700			Nil		
Holiday homes & camps 1954	145,000			8,000		
Kindergartens and children's homes 1953	910,900			212,000		
Theatre	3,293,500			162,600		
Public health	6,805,000	26.5	68.05	857,300	3.60	7.52

(For greater clarity, only three main item from the budgets are shown — administration, education & culture, and health

BRITISH LABOUR M. P.s ASK:

"Germany - What Next"

In putting the case at the Labour Party Conference at Scarborough for the National Executive Commitee Emergency Resolution on Germany, Herbert Morrison pleaded for 'elasticity' so that the Parliamentary Labour Party could take its decisions in accordance with the 'changing situation'. Far-reaching decisions may have to be made in the coming days, and it is therefore appropriate to consider how the Resolution applies to the various factors which have emerged since Scarborough.

The main factors are: the London Agreement, the attitude of the German Social Democrats and Trade Unionists, the attitude of the French National Assembly (including that of the French Socialists), the new Russian proposals on Germany and on international disarmament, and the general prospects for 'peaceful coexistence'.

The main points of the **Scarborough Resolution** were:

a. The re-unification of Germany in peace and freedom.

b. Resumed negotiations with the Soviet Union if the latter agrees to free elections in East Germany.

c. Consultations with other European Socialist parties to work out a common policy for Germany based on free elections, self-government and a contribution to collective security in a form which precludes the re-emergence of a German military menace.

Clearly we ought to give very great weight to the considered views of the **socialists and trade unionists** in Germany itself. The views of the S.P.D. were unitedly expressed in the recent debate in the Bonn Parliament, while those of the trade unionists were expressed at the Frankfurt Congress, representing 6 million West German workers, in a resolution carried with only 4 dissentients.

These views are (a) Rearmament of Germany under the London Agreement would make it impossible to achieve German reunification in peace and freedom, and would recreate a militarist and authoritarian state; (b) Negotiations should be resumed with the Soviet Union on the basis of free elections throughout Germany for a united all-German Government, a German contribution to a European security system under the United Nations, and the exclusion of Germany from any onesided military alliance either with the East or with the West. (Times 8. 10. 54 and 9. 10. 54 and Observer 10. 10. 54).

These views of thoroughgoing anti-Communists who have to live close to the Soviet Union can hardly be ignored.

The **French Socialists** (as well as the M.R.P. and other French parties) have made it clear that while supporting Mendès-France in 'further negotiations', they are opposed to any agreements which do not prevent the re-emergence of an autonomous Wehrmacht and a German General Staff, and do not provide for integration and control of armed forces and armaments under a 'democratic assembly'.

It seems clear that the **London Agreements** do not satisfy the conditions laid down either by the German or the French socialists. In addition they will certainly add to Britain's arms burden and prolong the two-year period of National Service.

There therefore seems to be every reason why the Labour Party should oppose the London Agreements in their present form. The question is, while opposing the present London Agreements, should we go further along the lines proposed by the German Social Democrats?

In the view of Ollenhauer, leader of the German S.P.D., 'A different situation has been brought about, first by Mr. Vishinsky's statement on disarmament at the United Nations, and secondly by Mr. Molotov's proposals in Berlin'. (Times October 8th, 1954)

Now that the Russians have agreed to discuss the British and other proposals for free elections throughout Germany the main obstacle to the resumption of Four-Power talks on Germany and European security has been removed. This does not, of course, involve us in full acceptance of Molotov's proposals, e. g. on the withdrawal of occupation forces, about which there is plenty of room for negotiation. The essential point is that there is now a real prospect of agreement on free elections and German reunification if the principle is accepted that Germany's contribution to collective security shall be made, at the appropriate time, through an all-in European security system under U.N. (e. g. on the Locarno model), and **not** through 'a one-sided military alliance with East or West'.

Furthermore, new prospects for controlled international disarmament and elimination of weapons of mass destruction have been opened up by the decision of the Soviet Union to accept the Franco-British proposals as the basis for future discussions. Since the United States have already given general approval to these proposals we can now dare to hope that, after a further period of undoubtedly complex negotiations, agreement may be achieved on this greatest of all international problems.

Is this the time for us to press on with the incorporation of a rearmed Western Germany into the Western military alliance? Shall we, for the sake of adding 12 German divisions to NATO destroy a chance of a further relaxation of international tension?

It may be said that this is 'only a Russian trick to delay German rearmament'. But surely, before any irretraceable steps are taken, this should be put to the test of renewed Four Power talks.

Signed: FENNER BROCKWAY
HAROLD DAVIES
STEPHEN SWINGLER
WILLIAM WARBEY

(The foregoing is the full text of a letter sent by the above four members of the British Parliament to all other Labour members).

Democratic
GERMAN REPORT

Subscription rates: 4 marks, 8/- sterling, $ 1.25 per annum or pro rata, postage paid.

Subscriptions may be paid at the following addresses:

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All other communications should be addressed to:

Democratic German Report,
Friedrichstrasse 167 III,
Berlin W 8,
Germany.

West German Trade Union Leader Warns:

"NAZIS ARE BACK"

By Dr Viktor Agartz,
Director of the Economic Science Institute of the West German Trade Union Federation

The forces which have grouped themselves round the West German state since its provisional establishment, and the return of those forces into society and business which were prominent in the years between 1933 and 1945, have created an atmosphere about which I shall have to say more.

Only a few days ago in the Bonn Parliament the demand was raised that all those persons should be politically investigated who had been forced to live in emigration after 1933, together with those persons who made themselves available after 1945 to cooperate with the occupation powers in the greatest and most difficult tasks of clearing up the mess. This state of mind is the foundation for the restorative tendencies, and is marked by a concentration of anti-Communist feeling. In fact political realities in the (West German) Federal Republic show very few democratic characteristics.

It is not to be wondered at that with the restrengthening of restorative tendencies the trade unions are being pushed into the background. In fact far too often they are treated as an unfortunate accompaniment of a modern industrial state. This may be illustrated by an example from the most recent period. No draft bill of any importance is presented to the Federal Government before it has been submitted to the various chambers of commerce and businessmen's federations. On the other hand, the trade unions only learned through the press of the contents of such an important draft law as that dealing with workers' consultative rights in certain industries.

To all intents and purposes every big concern has today a representative sitting in the Bonn Parliament, apart from the many experts who exert themselves in the same sense.

The workers cannot recognise a state as democratic and socially in order when this state excludes the workers from direct decision on the distribution of the social product...

(After the war) Germany was not given a free decision. The British Government made a binding declaration that coal and iron would be socialised. The American military government opposed such a measure. In the province of Hessen (American Zone) the Americans ordered a separate plebiscite on the article of the constitution calling for socialisation of coal and iron, but again, under American influence, this was not carried out.

People should not always look at the east, and say that the Government of the German Democratic Republic is supported by Russian tanks. The structure and the form of the West German economy have been formed by the bayonets of the western occupation forces.

The West German constitution is only provisional, but it has helped to develop the Federal Republic in the direction of an authoritarian system of government, and the parliamentary methods of control have been reduced to a minimum.

We regard with the greatest anxiety the emergence of fascist elements in the administration and in politics. At the same time it is only too often overlooked that a similar, and perhaps even stronger, tendency is going on in active economic policies.

(Extracts from a speech delivered at the annual conference of the West German Trade Union Federation, Frankfurt/Main October 9th 1954. All the passages quoted here were omitted from the report of the speech which appeared in "Welt der Arbeit", official organ of the West German Trade Union Organisation, on October 15th.)

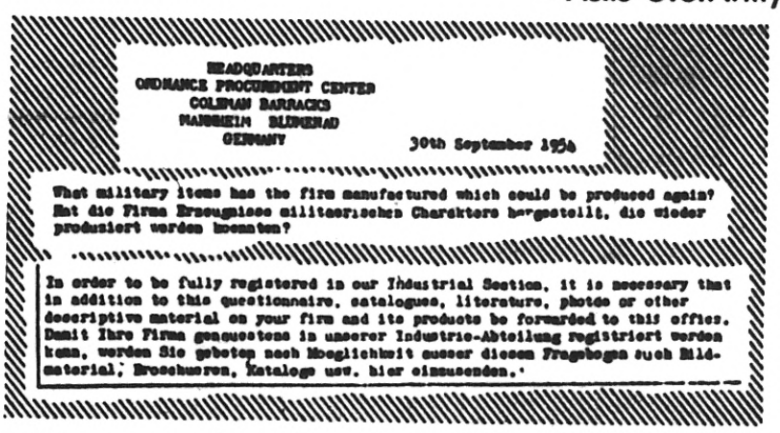
WEST GERMAN COURT RULES ANSCHLUSS LEGAL

Austrians are German citizens in the eyes of the West German High Administrative Court (Bundesverwaltungsgericht).

This was the decision handed down on October 30th 1954 by the court, which sits in Berlin, in a civil case of disputed citizenship. The decision was based upon Hitler's forcible incorporation of Austria in the German Reich in 1938, which the court found to be legal and still binding.

(The Governments of the United States, Britain, the USSR and China made a joint declaration in Moscow on November 1st 1943 stating that they "regard the annexation imposed upon Austria by Germany's penetration of March 15th 1938 as null and void.")

"What Arms did you Make for Hitler?" – Asks U.S.Army



HEADQUARTERS
ORDNANCE PROCUREMENT CENTER
COLEMAN BARRACKS
MANNHEIM BLUMENAU
GERMANY

30th September 1954

What military items has the firm manufactured which could be produced again? Hat die Firma Erzeugnisse militärischen Charakters hergestellt, die wieder produziert werden könnten?

In order to be fully registered in our Industrial Section, it is necessary that in addition to this questionnaire, catalogues, literature, photos or other descriptive material on your firm and its products be forwarded to this office. Damit Ihre Firma genauestens in unserer Industrie-Abteilung registriert werden kann, werden Sie gebeten nach Möglichkeit ausser diesem Fragebogen auch Bildmaterial, Broschueren, Kataloge usw. hier einzusenden.

Above are extracts from a letter sent by a US Army procurement center in West Germany to hundreds of factories in West Germany and West Berlin. "Your firm has been named to us as an important source of supply for meeting the future needs of the US Army", the letter began. It included a long questionaire on the size of the factory, the number of workers, and the key question reproduced above "What military items has the firm manufactured which could be produced again".

BERLIN NOTEBOOK

By John Peet

"What do people in the German Democratic Republic do when they are not breaking production records or working voluntary rebuilding shifts?" asks a slightly cynical reader.

The answer is simple. They act just like people in most other European countries: they go to the cinema or theatre, go out dancing, stay at home and listen to the radio (or watch television), read books, play with the children, and so on.

Quick Glance

Readers might be interested in a quick glance at the chances for amusing oneself in East Berlin this week. Let us start with the theatre.

I am actually hurrying through the last editorial preparations for this number of the paper in order to be in time to go to the premiere of a new production of Shakespeare's "Much Ado About Nothing" at the Kammerspiele Theatre tonight. Tomorrow night I could see Shaw's "Androcles and the Lion" at the same theatre, and the day after that they are staging Shaw's "Pygmalion". Sean O'Casey's "Shadow of a Gunman", and "Hotel Boy" by American author Albert Maltz are also on the programme.

Max Reinhardt's old theatre, the "Deutsches Theater", is showing Shakespeare's "Othello", Schiller's "Don Carlos", two plays by Maxim Gorki "Somov and Others" and "Yegor Bulychev and Others", as well as a play by famous modern German playwright Friedrich Wolf on the German Peasants' Revolt of 1525.

Neck and Neck

Maxim Gorki and Shakespeare are obviously the two most popular dramatists in East Berlin at the moment, with Shaw running up, because I see that other theatres are playing Shakespeare's "Comedy of Errors" and "The Taming of the Shrew", and Gorki's "Dostigayev".

In addition, Bert Brecht's moving play "The Mother", based on Gorki's novel of the same name, is being performed by the Berliner Ensemble, undoubtedly the best theatre group in the whole of Berlin, and probably in the whole of Germany.

"The Caucasian Chalk Circle", also by Bert Brecht, has just started what is sure to be a long run in the same theatre. This play, which uses many experimental theatrical forms, is the centre of a lively discussion amongst all Berliners interested in the theatre.

For children there is a special theatre, the "Theatre of Friendship", which is showing a play based on Mark Twain's "Tom Sawyer" dramatised by Stefan Heym, as well as Moliere's "Bourgeois as Gentleman" for older children.

But I see that a full listing of all the plays being performed would occupy the whole Notebook. A quick count shows twenty other plays which I have not mentioned which are shown regularly. And the theatres are always full. Seats are available very cheaply on a subscription basis, or through the trade unions, but you can also of course buy tickets at the door if you pay the full price.

High Notes

The two operas and one musical comedy theatre are also presenting a very varied programme, including Traviata, Sadko, Othello, Cosi fan Tutte, Bartered Bride, Carmen, Boheme, Freischuetz, Gipsy Baron and Wiener Blut.

And I cannot leave the theatres without mentioning the "Distel" political cabaret, which is presenting a very amusing satirical revue under the title "Opened for Repairs".

In the cinemas too there is an enormous range of films from East and West. The films on show this week include the Anglo-American "Moulin Rouge"; two rather silly comedies from West Germany; a Chinese film "Peoples of the Steppes"; "Rome 11 a.m." from Italy; "Stronger than the Night" a moving East German film about the anti-nazi underground; a ballet film from the Soviet Union, and two detective films from Czechoslovakia.

Popular lectures on just one typical evening (November 10th) included readings from the works of Chekhov and Turgenyev; a talk on African economy; a lecture on Brazil; "The Scientific Intenability of Racial Theories"; "Mosques in Islam"; "The Situation of Artists in West Germany"; "German and Soviet Geodesic Methods"; "Railways Yesterday and Today" (for children).

But let us leave these lectures to the very earnest. You want to dance? Most of the cafes and bars with music for dancing are crammed, partly because there was so much bomb damage in the centre of Berlin where most such places were located, and partly because a lot of West Berliners come across since it is cheaper to go out with your girl in East Berlin than in West Berlin. If you insist on staying up late there are several night-clubs open until the small hours.

International Soil

For sports fans there is plenty to do too. Every Sunday there are the usual soccer matches, with very often exciting international games against teams from the Soviet Union, Bulgaria, or even China, as well as matches against West German teams. Other sports events last weekend (November 6th and 7th) included weight lifting, wrestling matches, boxing, handball, Berlin district swimming championships, two big ice-hockey contests, table tennis district finals, and trotting races (complete with totalisators) at the Karlshorst race track.

And with all this variety offered, what did I do at the weekend? Like many thousands of other people I slept late on Sunday, and then spent the day pottering about in our little garden, planting bulbs and hoping they will come up despite the half-bricks which form a major part of our metropolitan soil.

"He sings so much better in his bath"

("Eulenspiegel", East Berlin)

Edited and published fortnightly by John Peet, Democratic German Report, Friedrichstrasse 167/III Berlin W 8. Telephone 22 62 68. Printed in Germany by (36). Veröffentlicht unter Lizenz-Nr. 694 beim Presseamt des Ministerpräsidenten der Deutschen Demokratischen Republik